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Message Text

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41
ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-02

INR-07 INRE-00 /031 W
---------- 104200
O R 231600Z OCT 75 ZFF-6
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SECTO 16129

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON S/PRS FROM FUNSETH

DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E. O 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJECT: SECRETARY KISSINGER TELEVISION INTERVIEW, TOKYO, OCTOBER 23

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF 10-MINUTE INTERVIEW BY SECRETARY KISSINGER WITH THREE TELEVISION NETWORK CORRESPONDENTS IN TOKYO, OCTOBER 23. WE HAVE RE-LEASED HERE, EMBARGOED UNTIL 0700 JAPANESE STANDARD TIME, OCTOBER 24, 1975 (1800 EDT, OCTOBER 23, 1975):

DON OLIVER, NBC: MR. SECRETARY, SOMEONE SAID THAT THE MEEINGS IN PEKING WERE IN A RATHER CHILLY ATMOSPHERE WITH SOME CRITICISM OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE OPENING NIGHT'S BANQUET AND RATHER CURT STATE-MENTS ON THE CLOSING NIGHT. HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE MEETINGS AND WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY ACCOMPLISHED?

MR. KISSINGER: THE CHINESE DESCRIBED THE MEETINGS AS FRIENDLY AND WIDE RANGING WHICH I THINK IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. WE HAD VERY FULL DISCUSSIONS. WE COVERED THE TOPICS IN ABOUT THE MANNER IN WHICH WE EXPECTED AND WE ARE SATISFIED WITH THE VISIT. I THINK IT LAID THE BASIS
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FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT AND MAINTAINED THE RELATIONSHIP

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AT THE LEVEL WHICH BOTH SIDES WANT.

BERNARD KALB, CBS: MR. SECRETARY, THE CHINESE MADE
A POINT AND HAVE MADE THE POINT OF ATTACKING VARIOUS ASPECTS
OF US FOREIGN POLICY THAT YOU PERSONALLY ARE VERY MUCH
AND PROMINENTLY IDENTIFIED WITH. THEY HAVE SHARPLY
ATTACKED DETENTE. THEY HAVE SHARPLY ATTACKED, FOR EXAMPLE,
THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE. DID YOU FIND IN ANY WAY THAT ON A
A PERSONAL LEVEL BECAUSE OF THESE POLICIES THE CHINESE WERE
A TOUCH COOL IN YOUR DIRECTION?

MR. KISSINGER: NO, PERSONAL RELATIONS ARE OUTSTANDING.
THIS WAS MY EIGHTH VISIT TO CHINA IN FOUR YEARS. THESE ARE
ALL PEOPLE I KNOW WELL. WE DON'T GO TO CHINA TO ASK
APPROVAL FOR OUR OTHER POLICIES. THEY DON'T ASK APPROVAL
FOR THEIR POLICIES. SO WE DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST
AND ON THE PERSONAL LEVEL THE REALTIONSHIP IS EXTREMELY GOOD.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: MR. SECRETARY, YOU HAD AN XTRA-
ORDINARILY LONG MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN MAO. DO YOU REGARD HIM
ON THE BASIS OF YOUR MEETING AS STILL AN ACTIVE FORCE IN
CHINA TODAY OR DOES HE HAVE A LARGELY HONORIFIC ROLE?

MR. KISSINGER: WELL I CANNOT DETERMINE THE INTERNAL
ARRANGEMENTS IN CHINA, BUT MY IMPRESSION WAS OF A MAN OF
VERY POWERFUL INTELLIGENCE, VERY STRONG VIEWS AND I SEE
NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT HE IS IN CHARGE OF EVENTS IN CHINA.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU CAN'T GO INTO
DETAIL, BUT CAN YOU GIVE US THE SENSE OF THE MOOD. HOW DID
THESE MEETINGS GO WHEN YOU WENT IN TO SEE MAO?

MR. KISSINGER: THEY'RE IN A RATHER SPARSE ROOM AND HE
LIKES TO JOKE. I HAVE LEARNED THAT ALL OF HIS REMARKS ARE
RATHER CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT. I THINK THE DISCUSSIONS WERE
WELL DESCRIBED AS WIDE RANGING, VERY ACUTE.

BERNARD KALB, CBS: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU HAVE THE
FEELING THAT THE CHINESE WANT, VERY MUCH SO, THE UNITED
STATES TO REMAIN IN ASIA?
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MR. KISSINGER: I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE CHINESE,
WITH ALL THE THINGS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN SAID AT THE BANQUETS--
I THINK THE CHINESE BASICALLY UNDERSTAND OUR GLOBAL POLICY--
AND UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITY OF OUR ROLE IN ASIA-- AND
CERTAINLY HAVE GIVEN NO SIGN EITHER TO US OR TO ANY OTHER
COUNTRY THAT THEY WANT US TO END IT.

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BERNARD KALB, CBS: ARE YOU SUGGESTING THE CHINESE
WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE UNITED STATES REMAIN IN ASIA?

MR. KISSINGER: WELL I THINK IT IS FOR THEM TO SAY WHAT
THEY WOULD LIKE TO DO. I HAVE HEARD NO OPPOSITION TO IT NOR
TO MY KNOWLEDGE HAVE OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES.

DON OLIVER, NBC: WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF A CHANGE IN
LEADERSHIP IN CHINA WITH MAO ILL, WITH CHOU EN LAI IN THE
HOSPITAL, DO YOU FEEL THE CHINESE ARE IN ANY POSITION RIGHT
NOW TO MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS TOWARD PROGRESS IN US-SINO
RELATIONSHIPS?

MR. KISSINGER: IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU MEAN BY PROGRESS
IN US-SINO RELATIONSHIPS. ON THE ISSUES OF GLOBAL INTER-
NATIONAL CONCERN, WE HAVE MANY POINTS OF COMMON VIEWS AND
WE ARE PURSUING THOSE. ON THER ISSUES OF PURELY BILATERAL
NATURE HAVING TO DEAL WITH COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND SO
FORTH, WE ARE NOT ADVANCING MATTERS A GREAT DEAL. BUT THOSE
ARE ESSENTIALLY OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE. I DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH THIS IS RELATED TO THE LEADERSHIP POSITION. I
THINK THIS IS A CALCULATED POLICY OF THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP.

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSC-05 SS-15 NSCE-00 PA-02

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SECTO 16129

TED KOPPEL, ABC: MR. SECRETARY, IT'S BEEN ALMOST A
YEAR SINCE YOU WERE IN CHINA LAST AND A GREAT DEAL HAS HAPPENED
WORLDWIDE SINCE THEN AND A GREAT DEAL HAS HAPPENED INTERNALLY
IN THE UNITED STATES. DO YOU HAVE THE FEELING THAT CHINA'S
PERCEPTION OF US HAS CHANGED AND IF SO IN WHAT DIRECTION?

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MR. KISSINGER: CHINA'S INTEREST IN THE UNITED STATES
DEPENDS ON THEIR PERCEPTION ON HOW EFFECTIVELY WE PERFORM
INTERNATIONALLY AND HOW ABLE WE ARE TO CARRY OUT OUR
POLICIES OR TO GET DOMESTIC SUPPORT FOR OUR POLICIES. I
WOULD GUESS THAT SINCE I FIRST WENT THERE IN 1971, THE SERIES
OF UPHEAVALS WE HAVE GONE THROUGH HAVE NOT GREATLY STRENGTHENED
THAT PERCEPTION. BUT ON THE WHOLE, IA AM SATISFIED WITH
THIS TRIP. I THINK THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE
UNITED STATES ARE BASICALLY SOUND.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: IF I UNDERSTAND YOU CORRECTLY
YOU SEEM TO BE SAYING THAT THE CHINESE FEEL WE ARE A SHADE
WEAKER THAN WE WERE TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO.

MR. KISSINGER: WELL, I'M NOT SAYING THIS IS NECESSARILY
EXPLICIT, BUTH THIS COULD BE PART OF THEIR PERCEPTION.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: BUT THIS IS YOUR SENSE?

MR. KISSINGER: IT'S PROBABLY TUE, BUT AGAIN I WANT
TO STRESS THAT THE BASIC RALTIONSHIP WAS SOUND ON THIS
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TRIP.

BERNARD KALB, CBS: MR. SECRETARY, LISTENING TO SOME
OF THE CHINESE OFFICIALS THAT WE TALKED WITH, WE GOT THE
FEELING THAT IN THEIR ATTACKS ON DETENTE THEE SEEMED TO BE
A DESIRE, A HOPE, ON THE PART OF THE CHINESE THAT THE
UNITED STATES WOULD GO BACK TO THE COLD WAR DAYS VIS-A-VIS
THE SOVIET UNION. HOW DO YOU HANDLE THAT ON IN YOUR
NEGOTIATIONS?

MR. KISSINGER: WE DO NOT MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE
THIS SPLIT BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA. WE DO NOT TELL THEM HOW THEY SHOULD
CONDUCT THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND WE CONDUCT
OUR OWN RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. SIMILARLY, WE DO
NOT PERMIT THE SOVIET UNION TO TELL US HOW TO CONDUCT OUR
RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. THE TWO GREAT
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAVE A MAJOR DISAGREEMENT OF THEIR OWN
AND IT IS UP TO THEM HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.

BERNARD DALB, CBS: FORGETTING ABOUT WHAT ONE SIE MAY
TELL THE OTHER, HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE SUBJECT, HOW DID BOTH
SIDES HANDLE THE SUBJECT, OF THE SOVIET UNION DURING THE
TALKS?

MR. KSSINGER: WHEN THE OCCASION ARISES WE STATE OUR

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PERCEPTION OF THE PROBLEM AND IT'S OBVIOUS THEY'RE STATING
THEIR PERCEPTION---WE SHOULD HOWEVER NOT OVERLOOK THE FACT
THAT BOTH OF US ARE OPPOSED TO EXPANSIONISM. WE MAY HAVE
DIFFERENT PERCEPTIONS ON HOW TO RESIST IT OR WHETHER IT IS
POSSIBLE TO EASE THE CONDITIONS, BUTH THE UNITED STATES
HAS NO ILLUSIONS, THAT, IF THERE IS EXPANSIONISM, WE HAVE
MANY INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO RESIST IT.

DON OLIVER, NBC: DID THE CHINESE GIVE YOU ANY INDI-
CATION THAT THEY FEEL THAT DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION,
FROM THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW, IS A BAR TO BETTER RELATIONS
WITH CHINA?

MR. KISSINGER: NO, NO SUCH POINT WAS MADE TO US.

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DON OLIVER, NBC: DID THE CHINESE SEEM TO BE WORRIED
ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP?

MR. KISSINGER: NOR WOULD WE ACCEPT SUCH A PROPOSITION
FROM EITHER THE SOVIET UNION VIS-A-VIS CHINA OR FROM CHINA
VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIET UNION.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: WOULDN'T IT BE FAIR TO SAY THEN,
MR. SECRETARY, THAT THE CHINESE ARE NOT HAPPY WITH WHAT
THEY SEE AS A SOFEENING OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TOWARDS THE
SOVIET UNION. DON'T THEY WANT TO SE US TOUGHEN IT?

MR. KISSINGER: WELL, SINCE WE OPENED OUR RELATIONS
WITH CHINA IN 1971--AND AFTER ALL I WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL
ARCHITECTS OF THIS--AT THAT TIME WERE ALREADY ENGAGED
IN IMPROVING OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. WE HAVE
PURSUED THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH BOTH SIDES
SIMULTANEOUSLY.

TED KOPPEL, ABC: NO, I UNDERSTAND THAT BUT I'M
AKSING YOU ABOUT THE CHINESE ATTITUDE. IT SEEMED TO US
THAT THEY WANTED THE UNITED STATES TO GET TOUGH WITH THE
SOVIET UNION.

MR. KISSINGER: NO, BUT YOU HAVE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN
THE FORMAL POSITION OF THE CHINESE AND WHAT WE MAY BE TALKING
ABOUT PRIVATELY. IN ANY EVENT WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT A
BASIC SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS.

NEWSMEN: THANK YOU.
KISSINGER

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